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May 22, 2003

By Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: Ex Parte Submission
Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act, CC Docket No. 97-213*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 22, 2003 Ernie Bond, Manager – Regulatory Policy, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.; Greg Pollet, Manager – Technical Support, Network Planning, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.; and Karen Possner, Vice President – National Security and Strategic Policy, BellSouth Corporation, met with Sean Devlin, Shanti Gupta, Julius Knapp, Geraldine Matisse, Jim Schlichting and Jerome Stanshine of the Office of Engineering & Technology; Jared Carlson, John Spencer and Stan Wiggins of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau; and, Tom Beers, Alan Feldman, Michael Goldstein, Suzanne Mendez, Gayle Teicher, John Vu and Cathy Zima of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

The discussion focused on a letter signed by Richard Thompson, Federal Bureau of Investigation, received by BellSouth April 29, 2003, regarding BellSouth's 107(c) petition for extension of the June 30, 2002 CALEA compliance date. BellSouth summarized May 2nd and May 14th telephone conversations with FBI staff during which BellSouth learned that the intended purpose of Mr. Thompson's letter was to convey the FBI's intent to disengage from the Flexible Deployment Plan process. During the May 14th conversation, FBI staff also made several positive statements concerning BellSouth's efforts to comply with CALEA, specifically stating that BellSouth had made "great strides in deployment." Finally, BellSouth provided an update of the status of CALEA deployment in its wireline network.

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In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we are filing this letter with the Secretary. Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Casper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

cc: Richard Thompson
Program Manager
Flexible Deployment Process
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Les Szwajkowski
Unit Chief
Policy, Planning, and Liaison Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sean Devlin
Shanti Gupta
Julius Knapp
Geraldine Matise
Jim Schlichting
Jerome Stanshine
Jared Carlson
John Spencer
Stan Wiggins
Tom Beers
Alan Feldman
Michael Goldstein
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